

During a recent trip to Israel and the Palestinian territories, I saw how both sides deeply yearn for peace. And I saw firsthand how they need the United States to do all it can to help them make peace.

The Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act will make this task enormously difficult.

The harsh restrictions, and cutting off contacts with moderate Palestinians, will severely complicate our ability to assume an active role in helping both sides resolve the conflict.

If we cannot engage with moderates, and those trying to develop the Palestinian economy and build civil society, we forfeit our ability to nurture and strengthen the positive elements in Palestine.

The President and State Department must have the utmost flexibility to help moderate Palestinians, to quickly get economic and humanitarian aid to places that need it, like hospitals and health clinics, and helps prevent the resumption of terrorism.

We need to isolate and weaken Hamas, and hopefully their tenure at the head of the PA will be a short one. But if we cannot distinguish between Hamas and the majority of the Palestinian people, we cannot possibly expect to have a role in creating what comes next.

Israelis and Palestinians realize that in the end, their fates are tied. It's time to help the majorities on both sides reach their mutual goal—a peaceful two-state solution—rather than standing in the way by punishing one side.

While the bill has been pulled from the calendar, that's only temporary. I urge the majority to leave it off the table indefinitely.

Give our State Department an opportunity to nurture peace, or we will surely have to ask our military to counter more terrorism.

CONGRATULATING DENVER HARBOR SENIOR CITIZENS, INC. ON 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Denver Harbor Senior Citizens, Inc. on twenty-five years of service to the senior citizens of Denver Harbor, Texas. Since its founding in June of 1980, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens has provided an outlet for seniors in our area to get together on a regular basis, socialize, and maintain meaningful friendships.

On any given weekday, the Denver Harbor Recreation Complex is visited by a large group of active senior citizens. Many gather in groups to play dominoes, bingo, or Loteria, a traditional Mexican game. While the games often bring out some good-natured competition among the players, everyone enjoys the camaraderie and laughter that the group activities provide.

Without doubt, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens, Inc. is one of the most active senior centers in Harris County. In addition to the programs provided in the new and beautiful Denver Harbor Recreation Complex, the group sponsors numerous senior outings and trips to Austin and other areas within the State of Texas, where the members can recall the Texas history lessons we all learned as schoolchildren.

Denver Harbor Senior Citizens also provides hot meals for its members, an invaluable service ensuring that senior citizens have well-balanced meals. As we age, the importance of nutrition cannot be underestimated and is critical to our good health. This group has taken that principle to heart and has put in place the benefits and services that keep our senior citizens active and healthy—in body, mind and spirit.

On May 19, 2006, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens will officially celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with a dinner reception and dance at the Denver Harbor Recreation Complex.

I would like to extend to this group my heartfelt congratulations and thanks for twenty-five years of dedication to Denver Harbor's senior citizens and wish them all the best in the future.

HONORING HARRY "BUS" YOURELL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry "Bus" Yourell of Oak Lawn, Illinois, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in the private and public sector.

Mr. Yourell served admirably in the United States Marine Corps during World War II earning the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Asiatic Pacific Medal with three stars, and the Presidential Unit Citation Award.

Born on February 19, 1919, in Hammond, Indiana, Yourell moved to Oak Lawn in 1956. He raised three children with his wife and established a popular Oak Lawn restaurant named "Bus' Drive-in" and was engaged in the insurance brokerage business.

Harry "Bus" Yourell served with excellence in community and civic affairs by participating in the Heart Fund, the Boy Scouts, the Lions Club, the Elks Club, the Holy Name Society, Rotary, American Legion Post 757, VFW Post 5220, and Catholic War Veterans.

He is a loyal and active Democrat who served his party as President of the Worth Township Regular Democrats for three years, was elected delegate to the 1964 State Nomination Convention, was six times elected Democratic Committeeman of Worth Township, was a member of the Cook County Democratic Central Committee, and was elected delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1968.

Yourell served nine terms as an elected member of the Illinois House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Counties and Townships Committee, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Administrative Procedures, Chairman of the Election Laws Commission, Chairman of the County Problems Commission, and was a member of the Executive Committee, the Cities and Villages Committee, the Financing of Education Commission, and the C-Selm Pollution Control Commission.

As an Illinois State Representative was chief sponsor of bills to raise the drinking age to 21 and to create the Joint Committee on Administrative Procedures; he also sponsored legisla-

tion creating one of the toughest narcotic bails in the nation, banning look-alike drugs, and the consolidated election law.

Citizens of our state who serve with distinction deserve to be recognized and honored for their accomplishments; therefore, it is my honor to recognize Harry "Bus" Yourell for his dedication and service to his family, friends, community, and country. I wish him all the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring attention to the 135th Anniversary of the Phoenix Elementary School District #1, which is in the heart of my district and celebrates its 135th birthday on May 15. Steeped in heritage and tradition, the district is in the heart of Phoenix and dedicated to the total development of every kindergarten through eighth grade student enrolled by setting high expectations for each child and fostering academic leadership. The district has demonstrated its ability to adapt to the times while keeping students needs' at the forefront.

The history of Phoenix Elementary School District #1 began in 1871, when it was created by the Arizona Legislative Assembly, acting upon a school bill presented by Arizona's third governor, Anson P. K. Safford. At the time, this free public school system had neither a schoolhouse, books or teachers. Twenty students attended class in the county courthouse.

By 1873, a one room adobe structure, named "Little Adobe," had been built with public funds, and Mr. W.A. Glover was hired to teach for \$100 per month. The school was 600-square feet and located in what is now downtown Phoenix. The District was formed 10 years before the city of Phoenix was even incorporated.

Just after it began operations, schools were closed from 1883 until 1885 due to a smallpox epidemic. Student enrollment was 374. By 1913, the district had expanded to nine schools and 4,860 students. In 1920, Kenilworth School opened, offering great relief to the overcrowded district. Sens. Barry Goldwater and Paul Fannin enrolled in Kenilworth that year. In 1957, a new school was named after the only living Arizonan to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor: Silvestre Herrera. Early in the 1960s the exodus from city to suburbs began in earnest. Inner-city dwellers were on a modest socio-economic level, thus qualifying the district for federal funding including support for both Title I and Title II. The decade began with 25 schools and burgeoning classes. A Spanish language program also was added at Heard and Grand Avenue schools. The late 1960s brought on concerns about the lack of Mexican-Americans working in the district. Soon, Mr. Louis P. Rodriguez was named principal of Grant School and Mr. Adam Diaz was declared the elected Trustee of the Board.

From 1970 on, the District's enrollment began to show a steady decline due to commercial rezoning of property. Despite parent

protests, other schools closed for safety reasons. Peak attendance of almost 12,000 pupils in 1953 was a thing of the past. By the 1970s, attendance dropped to about 7,000. Phoenix Elementary used this period as a time of innovation to improve programs for pupils. A student pilot breakfast program, Extended Day Kindergarten and a Parent Involvement Aide Program were implemented. Some were cited as national models.

By 2002, 15 schools were operating in the district. Under the current leadership of Superintendent Dr. Georgina Takemoto, all the district's schools are rated Performing or above by Arizona Standards. Four schools—Kenilworth, Magnet Traditional, Herrera and Lowell—have been dubbed A+ Schools of Excellence, an award given by non-profit Arizona Educational Foundation. Signature schools that specialize in dual language, performing arts, environmental science, electronic journalism, biotech and visual arts enhance the curriculums. Other newer programs include Academic Enrichment from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for students of working parents; health, dental and asthma clinics; registered nursing staffs; parent classes; and social and community workers.

As the district grew, then declined in enrollment, and now expects to see some growth on the horizon, it has experienced many changes and adapted to meet the needs of its students. I applaud the Phoenix Elementary School District #1 for its leadership and innovation in serving our children. For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me on congratulating the district on the occasion of its 135th Anniversary.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 12

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne E. Derse, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, and William B. Taylor, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Ukraine.

SD-419

MAY 15

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005's electricity reliability provisions.

SD-366

MAY 16

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the continuing need for Section 5 pre-clearance requirements of the Voting Rights Act.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James Lambright, of Missouri, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Armando J. Bucelo, Jr., and Todd S. Farha, both of Florida, each to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, Jon T. Rymer, of Tennessee, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, John W. Cox, of Texas, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and William Hardiman, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine Transportation Worker Identification Credential.

SD-562

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the status of Yucca Mountain Repository Project within the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management at the Department of Energy.

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine naturally occurring retirement communities.

SD-430

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of hedge funds in U.S. capital markets.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1686, to amend the Constitution Heritage Act of 1988 to provide for the operation of the National Constitution Center, S. 2417 and H.R. 4192, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to designate the President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace home in Hope, Arkansas, as a National Historic Site and unit of the National Park System, S. 2419 and H.R. 4882, bills to ensure the proper remembrance of Vietnam veterans and the Vietnam War by providing a deadline for the designation of a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, S. 2568, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, S. 2627, to amend the Act of August 21, 1935, to extend the authorization for the National Park System Advisory Board, and S. Res. 468, supporting the continued administration of Channel Islands National Park, including Santa Rosa

Island, in accordance with the laws (including regulations) and policies of the National Park Service.

SD-366

3 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the continuing need for Section 203 provisions of the Voting Rights Act, for limited English proficient voters.

SD-226

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dale Klein, of Texas, to be Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Molly A. O'Neill, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-628

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian youth suicide.

SR-485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine understanding the benefits and cost of Section 5 pre-clearance requirements of the Voting Rights Act.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine physician-owned specialty hospitals.

SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Ryan White Modernization Act of 2006, proposed Mine Safety and Health Act of 2006, proposed Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006, S. 860, to amend the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act to require State academic assessments of student achievement in United States history and civics, and the nominations of Jerry Gayle Bridges, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, and Vince J. Juaristi, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors, both of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Harry R. Hoglander, of Massachusetts, and Peter W. Tredick, of California, each to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, J. C. A. Stagg, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, Kent D. Talbert, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Education, and Horace A. Thompson, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine accelerating the adoption of health information technology.

Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the United States Department of Agriculture